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SOLOMON'S LODGE,

No. 764,

OF

Free and Accepted Masons,

UNDER CHARTER FROM THE

GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

FREDERICTON:

PRINTED BY JAMES HOGG, REPORTER OFFICE.

1848.

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BYE-LAWS

For the regulation of a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, duly constituted by a Warrant from the United Grand Lodge of England, (The Right Honorable and Most Worshipful Thomas Dundas, Earl of Zetland, &c., Grand Master,) in Jan., 1846, and called

Solomon's Lodge, No. 764,

to be holden at the City of Fredericton, New Brunswick, on the first Tuesday after every Full Moon.

Whereas it is necessary for the better government of this Lodge, that a code of Bye-Laws shall be established for the regulation of its internal economy, and of other matters not determined by the general Constitutions of the Masonic Society:

Be it therefore enacted by the Members of Solomon's Lodge, No. 764, by and with the approbation of the Most Worshipful The Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England, that the following Rules and Regulations shall be observed and obeyed by every Brother who now is, or who shall hereafter become a Member of this Lodge.

CHAPTER I.

Relative to meetings and the admission of members.

1. This Lodge shall be held at such place in Fredericton, as may from time to time be duly determined, on the first Tuesday after every Full Moon, (which are the regular nights of meeting) and at such other times as shall be found necessary, (which occasional meetings are to be deemed emergencies); and the Master, or in his absence, the Senior Warden, is hereby authorized and empowered to call the Lodge together at all times when there may be occasion; the cause of meeting to be specified in the summons for emergencies, and nothing else shall be then transacted.

The hour of meeting shall be not later than eight o'clock in the evening from May to October, both inclusive, and seven o'clock in the evening from November to April, both inclusive; and the Lodge shall be closed at or before ten o'clock, unless business shall require it to be kept open a longer time, which time shall be at the discretion of the presiding officer for the time being, but on no pretence shall any new matter be commenced after eleven o'clock.

2. For the speedy convening of this Lodge, every member residing within the City and Suburbs of Fredericton, that does not appear in clean and decent apparel within fifteen minutes after the hour appointed for meeting, (although the Lodge be not then opened) shall be fined seven pence half-penny. Sickness of himself, or of some member of his family, or absence from the City, being alone sufficient reasons for absence: And any member wherever resident that does not attend within the same time after the hour of meeting when specially summoned on emergency, shall be fined one shilling and three pence, unless his reasons for such neglect be absolutely satisfactory to the Master and a majority of the members present; and the Master, Wardens, Secretary, or Treasurer, neglecting to attend at the hour appointed for meeting, or (if unable to attend) to send his key, books, and other implements and insignia of his office, shall forfeit and pay the sum of two shillings and six

pence. And whereas great inconvenience results from admitting members at a late hour, no Brother shall be allowed to enter the Lodge after it has been open one hour, except by unanimous consent of the principal officers: and no Brother shall on any pretence, be suffered to enter the Lodge after it is open, without being properly clothed.

3. Every person desirous of being initiated into the mysteries of Masonry in this Lodge, shall make application in writing, agreeably to the annexed form, and be proposed on a regular Lodge night by a member of the Lodge, and if the proposition be seconded by another member, the Master shall direct the application to be recorded in the Minutes, and shall appoint a Committee of two or more members to enquire into the character, capacity, and circumstances of the Candidate; which Committee shall make their report at or before the next regular Lodge night; upon which regular night a ballot shall be taken, and if there be two black balls, he shall be rejected; but if there be only one black ball, his name shall continue on the books until the next regular Lodge night, when a ballot shall again be taken, and if it be then unanimous in his favour, (but on no other consideration) he shall be accepted for the Degrees, and shall be admitted a member, if he so desire, on the day of his initiation, without any further application or ballot.

In cases of emergency, the following alteration as to the mode of proposing a Candidate, is allowed:—Any two members of a Lodge may transmit in writing to the Master, the name, addition or profession, age, and place of abode, of any Candidate whom they may wish to propose, and the circumstances which cause the emergency; and the Master, if the emergency be proper, shall notify the said recommendation to every Member of his Lodge, stating the name, age, addition or profession, and place of abode, of the Candidate; and may, at the same time, summon a Lodge to meet at a period of not less than seven days from the issuing of the summons, for the purpose of balloting for the Candidate; and if the Candidate be then approved, he may be initiated into the first Degree of Masonry. The Master shall, previous to the ballot being

taken, cause the said proposition, and the emergency stated, to be recorded in the Minute Book of the Lodge.

FORM OF APPLICATION.

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren of Solomon's Lodge, No. 764, of Free and Accepted Masons, on the Registry of the Grand Lodge of England,

"The Petitioner of the Subacriber,

"*Respectfully Sheweth,—*

"That entertaining a favourable opinion of your ancient Institution; he is desirous of being admitted a member thereof, if found worthy."

Name,

Age,

Occupation,

Residence,

4. Every Brother who may desire to be admitted a member of this Lodge, shall make application in writing, stating his name, occupation, and place of abode, as well as the name and number of the Lodge of which he is, or was last a member, or in which he was initiated; he must then be proposed in open Lodge on a regular night of meeting (having previously visited the Lodge once at least) by a member, who shall at the same time pay a deposit of ten shillings to the Secretary for the Lodge, and file with him the Grand Lodge Certificate of the applicant, as well as the Certificate of his former Lodge; or if the applicant be not in possession of such documents, the proposer shall produce sufficient proof that the applicant has duly conformed to the Rules of the Lodge to which he last belonged. If the proposal be seconded by another member, the Master shall proceed in all things as in the case of a Candidate for the mysteries, an unanimous ballot being also eventually necessary for his admission.

3. The method of balloting to be pursued on all occasions in this Lodge, shall be as follows:

The balloting box, together with a box containing black and white balls, shall be placed by direction of the Master in a convenient part of the room, in such a situa-

tion that every Brother may have an opportunity of making his ballot in private : after which the Secretary, by direction of the Master, shall proceed to call every member separately, beginning with the Master ; and each member when so called, shall go to the ballot box and there make his ballot ; but no Brother under the rank of a Master Mason can be allowed to ballot.

CHAPTER II.

Relative to Fees, Fines, and other pecuniary affairs.

1. Every person who may be proposed as a Candidate for initiation to this Lodge, shall at the time of being proposed, deposit with the Secretary, the sum of twenty shillings, Currency, and if he be found worthy of admission, (agreeably to Chapter 1, Section 3,) it shall be considered as a part of what he is to pay into the fund ; if he be rejected, it shall be returned to him ; but if he decline or neglect to come forward, as hereinafter provided, it shall be forfeited to the Lodge.

2. Every Candidate who shall be initiated into the mysteries of Masonry in this Lodge, shall pay the sum of five pounds, Currency, which sum shall entitle him to be advanced to the Degree of a Master Mason ; to be registered in the books of the Grand Lodge, and to receive a Grand Lodge Certificate ; and the said sum (including the twenty shillings previously deposited) shall be actually paid into the hands of the Secretary before the ceremony of initiation shall be commenced ; and the Master shall on no pretence allow the provisions of this Rule to be evaded.

3. Every Brother who shall be admitted a member of this Lodge, (agreeably to Chapter 1, Section 4,) shall pay into the hands of the Secretary at the time of his admission (including the ten shillings previously deposited) if an entered Apprentice—the sum of three pounds, Currency, for which he shall be advanced to the Degree of a Master Mason, and registered in the books of the Grand Lodge. If a Fellow Craft, the sum of two pounds, for which he shall also be advanced to the Degree of a Master Mason, and registered as aforesaid : and if a

Master Mason, the sum of fifteen shillings, with the expense of registration (if any) upon the books of the Grand Lodge; but the aforesaid sums shall not entitle the Brother to receive a Grand Lodge Certificate.

4. If any Candidate for initiation, or for advancement in Masonry, or for membership, who may be accepted as hereinbefore provided, shall neglect to avail himself of such acceptance, for *three months* after the ballot is taken and announced to him, he shall be considered to have declined; the vote shall be rescinded, his deposit shall be forfeited, and he must thereafter apply for admission in the usual manner.

5. Every member of this Lodge shall pay to the fund, the sum of one shilling and three pence on each and every regular Lodge night, (unless exempted from such dues by special resolution of the Lodge) and no member shall on any account be permitted to ballot until the whole amount of his dues and fines (if any) be paid; and in order to avoid confusion and delay in the collection of dues, &c., it shall be the duty of the Master or presiding Officer on each regular night, immediately after the Minutes of proceedings at the former meeting are read and confirmed, to cause the Secretary to call up the members in the order of their entry upon the Minutes; and each member when so called shall pay his fees and fines then due, or immediately retire; and any member omitting the payment of his dues, &c., for two regular Lodge nights, shall not be permitted to sit in the Lodge until he shall have paid such dues into the hands of the Master or the Secretary; nor shall he, if within the Province, be continued as a member, after his dues shall have been in arrear and unpaid for twelve months.

6. Every visiting Brother must be introduced by a member of the Lodge, who is himself a Master Mason, the said introducer to become responsible for the good conduct (vide Chapter 3, Section 2,) of such visitor while in Lodge; and (unless exempted by special resolution of Lodge) every such visitor shall after his first visit, pay the sum of one shilling and three pence on each subsequent visit at any of the regular Lodge nights; the mem-

ber who introduces such visitor to be held responsible for the payment of such visiting fee, and be subject to the same penalties in default, as in the case of non-payment of his own dues.

7. Any member of this Lodge, whose business obliges him to leave the Province, may on his return, resume his membership, by paying the monthly dues since his departure; and if he has been absent one year or upwards, fifteen shillings shall be deemed sufficient therefor. But if any member residing within the limits of the Lodge shall absent himself for six consecutive regular Lodge nights, without sending a just and reasonable excuse in writing to the Master, he shall be summoned by the Secretary, or other member appointed for that purpose; and if he do not attend at the next regular meeting after the receipt of such summons, or send a just and reasonable excuse as aforesaid, his neglect or disobedience shall be deemed a contempt of the authority of this Lodge, and his name shall be forthwith erased from the roll of its members. Such exclusion to be at once reported to the Grand Lodge, and to the several Lodges in this Province, holding under the Grand Lodge of England.

8. A Lodge Certificate, signed by the Master, Wardens, and Secretary, shall be granted on application, and free of expense, to any member of this Lodge, when he shall have resigned, or been excluded for non-conformity to the Bye Laws; such Certificate to state the circumstances under which he withdrew or was excluded.

And if any Brother who shall have been initiated, or advanced to the higher Degrees in this Lodge, be desirous of having a Certificate of his admission, &c., before the receipt of his Grand Lodge Certificate, he may receive such Certificate, free of expense, which shall contain the dates of initiation, passing, and raising, and be signed by the Master, Wardens, and Secretary; but such Certificate must be delivered up as soon as the Grand Lodge Certificate shall be received.

9. All fines, dues, &c., shall be collected by the Secretary, who shall balance the books of the Lodge on the regular Lodge nights, preceding the 24th day of June and the 27th day of December, in each year.

All monies collected by the Secretary, shall within two days after its receipt, be paid by him into some Bank, (to be determined by the members) to account of Solomon's Lodge, and to be disposed of agreeably to the decision of a majority of the members present at any meeting of the Lodge. Every cheque for such monies to be signed by the Master, Treasurer, and Secretary.

10. Any member of this Lodge who may be desirous of resigning his membership, shall give one month's previous notice of his intention to resign. Such notice to be given on a regular night of meeting; and the Brother resigning, shall pay up his dues and fines to the day of his resignation, inclusive.

CHAPTER III.

Relative to the Election of Officers, and other internal regulations of the Lodge.

1. The election of the Worshipful Master and Treasurer in this Lodge shall take place on the regular night next preceding the 27th day of December in each year; and the Officers so elected shall be installed into their offices on the said day, (being the Festival of Saint John the Evangelist,) after the Minutes of election shall be confirmed, and the Master shall then appoint and invest the Wardens and other Officers.

2. If any Brother shall presume to come into this Lodge in a state of inebriety, or shall curse, swear, or use any profane or immoral language therein, or shall behave himself with disrespect to the Master, Wardens, or Brethren of this Lodge, so as to disturb the peace and harmony of the same, he shall for any such offence against the regulations and the spirit of Masonry, be excluded from this Lodge, and his name be erased from its roll of members.

3. In all debates concerning the affairs of this Lodge, complaints made, or questions that may arise, every Brother shall stand up while he speaks and address himself to the Chair; and if more than one speak at a time, the Master shall direct the first who stood up to proceed, and the rest shall immediately sit down and be silent

until such Brother has done speaking ; and at all times when the Master shall strike to order with his Gavel, a profound silence shall be observed ; and no private altercations or disputes shall be suffered during Lodge hours, nor is any member to leave the Lodge Room without permission from the Chair ; and whenever it shall be deemed necessary to appoint Committees to transact any business relating to this Lodge, the power of nominating the Brethren for such Committee shall be vested in the Master, subject to the approval of a majority of the members present.

4. The Cash or Fund, as well as the Jewels, and all other things belonging to this Lodge, shall be, and they are hereby vested in, and made and deemed the property of the Master and Wardens for the time being ; so that any actions or suits that may happen to be necessary for the preservation or recovery of the same or any part thereof, may and shall be brought or commenced in their names, in trust for the use and benefit of the Lodge, and to be paid, applied, and disposed of, as a majority of the members shall in due form, think proper to direct.

5. Every member of this Lodge, on the day of his admission, shall be directed by the Master to sign these Bye Laws, in the Lodge Book kept for that purpose ; and the Master shall cause a copy of them to be given to each member on his signature being attached thereto, that every Brother may inform himself of his Masonic duties.

ABSTRACTS

FROM THE CONSTITUTIONS.

Every Brother regularly elected and installed as Master of a Lodge, and serving as such for one year, shall rank as Past Master, so long as he continues a member of any Lodge; but ceasing for twelve months to subscribe to any Lodge, he forfeits his rank and privileges.

No Brother can be elected Master of a Lodge, unless he has previously been regularly appointed Warden of a Warranted Lodge, and served as such for one year.

No Master shall assume the Chair, until he has been regularly installed, but he may in the interim rule the Lodge.

No Brother shall continue in the office of Master longer than two years in succession, without a dispensation, but he may be again elected after he has been one year out of that office.

No Lodge shall make a Mason for less than three Guineas, (£3 15 8) besides the registering fee, (10s.) nor on any pretence remit or defer the payment of any part of this sum.

No person can be made a Mason under the age of twenty one years, except by dispensation; nor without being regularly proposed at one Lodge, and balloted at the next regular stated Lodge, his name, profession, and residence, being in the mean time sent to all the members.

No Lodge shall make more than five new Brothers in one day without a dispensation.

No more than one Degree can be conferred upon a Brother on the same day, nor a higher Degree in less than four weeks from the time of conferring the previous Degree, nor until the Candidate has been examined in open Lodge upon such previous Degree.

No Brother can be admitted a Member of a Lodge, without being proposed in open Lodge, and every Member made acquainted with his name, occupation, and residence, as well as the name and number of the Lodge to which he last belonged, and a ballot taken at the next stated Lodge meeting.

Any Member of a Lodge, excluded, or resigning, cannot be admitted a Member of another Lodge, until such Lodge be informed of the reasons why he resigned, or was excluded from his former Lodge; and any Brother so excluded or resigning, shall be entitled to receive from the Lodge, a Certificate of the cause of such resignation or exclusion.

No Brother who is not a subscribing member to some Lodge, can visit a Lodge in the place of his residence, more than once during his secession from the Craft.

No Brother can get a Grand Lodge Certificate, if he has received more than one Degree in the same day, or a higher Degree in less than four weeks from the time of receiving a previous Degree.

Every Brother must sign his name in the margin of his Grand Lodge Certificate, or it will not be valid.

No Lodge or officer, or member of a Lodge, shall under any circumstances, give a Certificate or recommendation to enable a Mason to go from Lodge to Lodge as a pauper, or to travel about for relief from Lodges.

No public Masonic Procession or Masonic Funeral can take place without license from the Grand Master, or Provincial Grand Master; and any officer or member of-

fending in this respect shall be ever after incapable of serving as an officer in any Lodge.

No master of the house at which the Lodge meets, shall hold an office in the Lodge without a dispensation.

No Bye Law, nor material alteration of a Bye Law shall be valid, until approved by the Grand Master, or Provincial Grand Master.

Any Lodge or Brother may appeal to the Grand Lodge against the decision of any other Masonic authority or jurisdiction, such appeal to be in writing, specifying the particular grievance complained of, and be transmitted to the Grand Secretary; a notice and copy of the appeal to be also sent to the party against whose decision the appeal is made.

No Jewel shall be worn in a Lodge except these prescribed for the officers, and such honorary or other Jewels as are consistent with the Degrees recognized by and under the control of the Grand Lodge.

No Brother shall be admitted into a Lodge, without his proper clothing.

The following are the Insignia and clothing to be worn by the Craft :—

JEWELS.

MASTERS OF LODGES,	The Square.
PAST MASTERS,	The Square, and the diagram of the 47th proposition, 1st Book of Euclid, engraven on a silver plate, pendant within it.
SENIOR WARDEN,	The Level.
JUNIOR WARDEN,	The Plumb.
TREASURER,	The Key.
SECRETARY,	The Cross Pens.
DEACONS,	The Dove.

INNER GUARD,
TYLER,

Cross Swords.
The Sword.

All to be of silver; and the Collars of light blue ribbon, four inches broad.

APRONS.

ENTERED APPRENTICE, A plain white Lamb skin, from 14 to 16 inches wide, 12 to 14 inches deep, square at bottom, and without ornament, white strings.

FELLOW CRAFT,

A plain white Lamb skin, similar to that of the Entered Apprentice, with the addition only of two sky blue rosettes at the bottom.

MASTER MASON,

The same, with sky blue lining and edging one and a half inch deep, and an additional rosette on the fall or flap, and silver tassels. No other colour or ornament shall be allowed, except to Officers and Past Officers of Lodges, who may have the Emblems of their offices in silver, or white in the centre of the Apron.

MASTERS AND PAST MASTERS of Lodges to wear in lieu and in the places of the three rosettes on the Master Mason's Apron, perpendicular lines upon horizontal lines, thereby forming three several setts of two right angles; the length of the horizontal lines to be two inches and a half each, and of the perpendicular lines one inch; these Emblems to be of ribbon half an inch broad, and of the same colour as the lining and edging of the Apron.

THE MASTER is responsible for the due observance of the Laws relating to private Lodges, and must produce all books, minutes, and accounts when required by any lawful authority.

THE WARDENS or Officers of a Lodge cannot be removed by the Master, except by consent of the Lodge after investigation of the cause of complaint against them.